

State Rehabilitation Council (SRC)
October 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Meeting locations:

This meeting was held at:

Videoconferencing:

Delaware Department of Labor
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
4425 N. Market Street
Wilmington, DE 19802

Delaware Department of Labor
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Blue Hen Corporate Center, Suite 2 H
Dover, DE 19901

SRC Council Members Present:

Monica Edgar - Chair
Nicole Barr (Dover)
Ellen Coulston
Karen DiNardo
Lisa Furber
Emmanuel Jenkins (Dover)
Janie Libby (Dover)
Dale Matusevich (Dover)
Jackie Poquette
Loretta Sarro

General Attendees Present:

Sharon Boland – DVR
Andrea Guest – DVR
Jocelyn Langrehr - DVR
HarrietAnn Litwin – DVR
Hunter Matusevich
Alice Stumpf
Cindy Sterling

Members Absent:

Christina Andrews
Alice Coleman
Alvin Emory
Despina Wilson
Alexia Wolf

Welcome

Moni began the meeting at 12 p.m. by welcoming the group and thanking everyone for attending. The attendees self-introduced themselves.

Director's Report

Fiscal Year End

Andrea discussed the September 30 Federal Fiscal Year End and that the new Fiscal Year 2019. She noted that more than 500 people remain on the waiting list. She discussed that 2018 employment outcomes were lower than normal (around 800) and how we need to focus on jobs

that are open and how we can prepare people for those jobs. She noted that we are looking at skills gap as a way to address this issue.

SRC Luncheon Nomination

This year's luncheon is December 10 at Dover Downs. Sharon will send out the nomination form to SRC members this week. People who are nominated will need to have come through the DVR program.

Transition Conference

December 12 is the Annual Transition conference, being held at Dover Downs. Registration will close by the end of this week and will cap at the first 700 to register. There will be a variety of workshops with local resources in addition to vendors.

Budget

Andrea discussed how VR's funding is on the Federal side with some state match money. The first budget hearing is in November. Andrea stated that it would be good to have a representative from the SRC at the hearing.

Pipeline to Success

Jocelyn discussed the Pipeline to Success program. She noted that there are approximately 8,000 to 10,000 students with disabilities in our "pool" of who we could potentially serve. She discussed how it is a systems change about equal access. She said that we need to start to talk about it as well as make it accessible. Jocelyn noted that the Pipeline to Success program came out of the Pathways to Employment project. The United Way, Department of Labor, Rodel, Delaware Technical Community College, and Delaware Health and Social Services are partners in this program. There are five priorities and we are priority #3 – Increase access to career pathways for students with disabilities and barriers to employment. Jocelyn noted that the SRC can advocate for students going through career pathways.

Membership

Andrea noted that she spoke with Ray Lewis. He was going to present the remaining pending applications to the Governor. She also reminded the group that the SRC must be a majority (>50%) of people with disabilities.

Policy

Moni discussed that it was time to review/update the SRC Bylaws and asked for volunteers. Members interested in helping were asked to contact HarrietAnn Litwin.

SPCD SRC Contact

It was discussed that Karen DiNardo is also a member of the State Council for Persons with Disabilities Council. As such, she will provide legislative reports to the SRC on behalf of the SPCD.

Annual Poster Contest

The group discussed holding a Poster Contest in October for National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The contest would have a topic for students to highlight. Money was discussed as prizes. The SRC would gain recognition and it would be engagement and interaction with students and schools as well as some publicity. It was discussed that the Governor could be asked to present the award. Lisa made a motion to develop a Project Team and Moni and Loretta made the second and everyone else agreed all in favor.

February Retreat

Please hold February 11 for an all-day retreat at the Newark DVR location.

Discussion of Vote

Andrea discussed the vote for Chair and Vice Chair. There was a last call for self-nominations. Nominations were read: Moni (3) as Chair and Karen (2) as Vice Chair. Other nominations received were for non-members and were not counted. Nominations were closed and the group moved to voted. A voice vote was taken. Dale made a motion to accept Moni as Chair and Karen as Vice Chair and Janie seconded the motion and everyone else agreed all in favor.

Moment of Silence for Jamie

Jamie Wolfe passed away on August 22, 2018. The group held a moment of silence in her honor.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m.

-END-

2018 Meeting Schedule

December 10 – SRC Luncheon, Dover Downs